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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: BUSINESS AND DEVELOPMENT

United States of America: draft resolution

Business

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 48/180 of 21 December 1993,

Taking note of the biennial report of the Secretary-General on entrepreneurship and privatization, 1/

Taking note of chapter VI of World Economic and Social Survey, 1995, touching on the same subjects, 2/

Taking note of the twelfth meeting of experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance and endorsing its finding that the economic role of Government is to enable national development, primarily through private-sector development, 3/

Aware of the need for increased private-sector involvement in the sustainable development and provision of infrastructure services, particularly in developing countries and economies in transition, while protecting essential services and safeguarding the environment,

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1/ A/50/417.

2/ United Nations publication, Sales No. 95.II.C.1.

3/ ST/SG/AC.6/1995/--.

Taking note of the World Ministerial Conference on Organized Transnational Crime, held in Naples from 21 to 23 November 1994, 4/ and in Buenos Aires in November 1995, and of the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, 5/ held in Cairo from 29 April to 8 May 1995, in particular their consideration of the issue of illicit payments in international business transactions,

Noting the recommendations adopted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development in April 1994 in which its members take concrete and significant steps to combat commercial bribery,

Acknowledging the need for an international instrument to deal with the problem of illicit payments in international business transactions, in particular the completion of the draft international agreement on illicit payments, so as to promote governmental accountability, a stable and predictable international business environment and fair economic and social development for the general public,

1. Values the promotion of entrepreneurship in support of small and medium-sized industry, and of privatization, demonopolization and administrative deregulation, by various actors throughout civil society;

2. Invites Member States, requests the Secretary-General, and calls upon and encourages the relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to continue to undertake and improve their activities in support of entrepreneurship, privatization, demonopolization and administrative deregulation, as described in its resolution 48/180;

3. Invites Member States, requests the Secretary-General, and calls upon and encourages the relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, in their respective activities for the sustainable development and provision of infrastructure services, to increase private-sector involvement and to improve the utilization and maintenance of existing infrastructure, for example, through increased use of guarantees and co-financing for infrastructure investment and through closer integration of the United Nations specialized agencies for that purpose;

4. Calls upon the Secretary-General and encourages the relevant organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, in their management of United Nations system internal procurements practices, to involve, to the greatest extent practicable, efficiencies afforded by private-sector outsourcing for the sake of more effective and efficient execution of United Nations system programmatic mandates;

5. Looks forward to its resumed fiftieth session in March-April 1996, at which it will examine public administration and development and address further the restructuring of the public sector for private-sector development;

4/ See A/49/748, annex.

5/ See A/CONF.169/16.

6. Calls for the completion of the draft international agreement on illicit payments through:

(a) The re-convening of the Economic and Social Council's Committee on an International Agreement on Illicit Payments which, in order to complete the draft, would take account of progress already achieved on this issue in areas such as the definition of illicit payments, the establishment of uniform reporting procedures and the promotion of a framework for information exchange;

(b) A report by the Committee, through the Council at its 1996 session, on progress achieved on a completed draft, to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session for its consideration under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council";

7. Decides to consider at its fifty-second session activities relating to the present resolution under an agenda item entitled "Development and international economic cooperation: business and development".